animal stage, the child is governed and guided by its desires
and wants and fears. For a period, varying of course with
different children, generally, four or five years after its birth,
its conduct and activities are controlled chiefly, if not
exclusively by rewards and punishments. If it be obedient
to rules imposed upon it, it is rewarded by gifts or praises.
If it be disobedient, it is punished by some penalties or blame.
For the sake of reward or through fear of punishment, its
conduct becomes more or less regulated, and the child thereby
acquires some good habits and the correction of some faults,
both processes being absolutely needful for its own safety
and happiness. But in all this there is not a grain of true
morality, nor in any transgression even a trace of sin or
guilt. The child is still only an animal under the impulses
of motives purely selfish. But because it is the child of
human parents, and therefore destined to grow up to be a
human being, the day comes at last when the moral sense
begins to dawn and the conscience is a new faculty, hitherto
entirely unfelt and unknown. The child commits some
act of disobedience, and, instead of being only afraid of

punishment, as it used to be, is smitten with shame and self-reproach. For the first time, it understands what right and wrong mean ; what is meant by " I ought " and ct I ought not "—quite apart from consequences pleasant or unpleasant. Before its wrong act is detected, before a breath of blame has been heard, the little frame trembles, the eyes are downcast, the face is sad and the cheeks burn with a strange and painful emotion. In that first moment of guilt and shame, the child is born again, born into a new and higher world of thought and feeling, of hope and fear. It has become a moral being, and now it can understand what its mother means when she says it is wrong to lie or to steal, or to do what is forbidden.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the first germs of conscience are* in the infant bosom, pregnant with possibilities of growth under the pure atmosphere